

EXHIBIT 17

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF MARYLAND
(Northern Division)

H. KEVIN KNUSSMAN,

Plaintiff,

v.

STATE OF MARYLAND, *et al.*,

Defendants.

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Civil Action No. B-95-1255

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**MAY 22, 2002, DECLARATION OF DEBORAH A. JEON IN SUPPORT OF
PLAINTIFF'S PETITION FOR ATTORNEYS' FEES AND EXPENSES**

1. I, Deborah A. Jeon, am over 18 years of age and competent to testify. I make this Declaration in further support of Plaintiff H. Kevin Knussman's Petition for Attorneys' Fees and Expenses, as supplemented on March 5, 2002. Fees are sought in these applications for work conducted by plaintiff's counsel over the period from March 13, 1995 through February 2002. Recovery of fees and costs incurred after that will be sought in a subsequent petition.

2. Defendants contend that the Court should reduce the plaintiff's fee request by two thirds through August 2, 1996, due to the dismissal, on that date, of plaintiffs Kimberly and Riley Paige Knussman. In fact, however, plaintiff's counsel spent no additional time due to the initial inclusion and subsequent exclusion of these two plaintiffs. Defendants have identified no entries from the time records of plaintiff's counsel indicating devotion of time to Kim or Riley Paige as plaintiffs. This is because their claims were inextricably intertwined with those of Mr. Knussman, and thus entailed no additional time expenditure. Our records reflect that any time that was specifically devoted to Kimberly Knussman was expended *not* because of her brief role

as a plaintiff, but because of her critical role as a witness in this case (and a witness extensively deposed by the defendants). Our records show that no counsel time at all was specifically devoted to Riley Paige Knussman, and none has been identified by defendants.

3. Defendants also contend that plaintiff's fee request should be reduced because he was represented by more than one attorney. Given their own representation by multiple counsel, however, defendants lack any legitimate basis for complaining about plaintiff's staffing of his case. In the chart attached as Exhibit A to this Declaration, I have recorded the number of plaintiff's counsel who billed for various proceedings in this case, as well as the number of defense counsel who attended each of those proceedings. I have personal knowledge of all of those proceedings, with the exception of a few depositions, for which I consulted the deposition transcript's list of attendees. Staffing of this case by plaintiff's counsel was comparable to that of the defendants. If anything, this analysis shows that plaintiff frequently billed for *fewer* attorneys than defendants employed to perform the same function.

4. As reflected in our time records, Mr. Knussman's three attorneys divided the necessary work among ourselves in a manner that kept duplication to a bare minimum. Moreover, where duplication of efforts was evident, plaintiff's counsel exercised billing judgment by eliminating charges for the second chair attorney.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

May 22, 2002

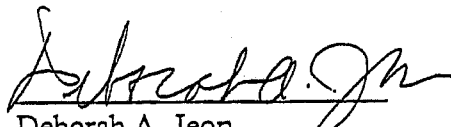

Deborah A. Jeon

CHART OF ATTENDANCE OF MULTIPLE ATTORNEYS

Date	Proceeding	Plaintiff's Counsel Billing	Defense Counsel Attending
1/26/2001	Appellate Hearing	3 Attorneys	3 Attorneys
11/15/1999	Fourth Circuit Mediation	2 Attorneys	3 Attorneys
11/2/1999	Conference Call w/ D. Ct.	1 Attorney	2 Attorneys
7/1/1999	D. Ct. Hearing on Post - Trial Motion	3 Attorneys	2 Attorneys
6/17/1999	Conference Call w/ D. Ct.	1 Attorney	2 Attorneys
6/15/1999	Settlement Conf. w/ Judge Klein	2 Attorneys	2 Attorneys
5/14/1999	J.C. Lewis Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
5/14/1999	Kevin Knussman Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney, 1 Law Clerk
5/14/1999	Dr. Williamson Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney, 1 Law Clerk
5/13/1999	Dr. Strahan Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
5/11/1999	Dr. Phillips Deposition	1 Attorney	2 Attorneys
5/10/1999	Lt. Col. Smith Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
5/10/1999	Wenrich Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
5/10/1999	Beck Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney

<u>Date</u>	<u>Proceeding</u>	<u>Plaintiff's Counsel Billing</u>	<u>Defense Counsel Attending</u>
5/7/1999	Cpl. Gainey Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney, 1 Law Clerk
5/7/1999	Cpl. Colbert Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney, 1 Law Clerk
5/7/1999	TFC. Mason Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney, 1 Law Clerk
5/6/1999	Maj. D. Lewis Deposition	1 Attorney	2 Attorneys
5/6/1999	Piringer Deposition	1 Attorney	2 Attorneys
5/6/1999	Lawrence Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
5/4/1999	D. Ct. Motions Hearing	2 Attorneys	3 Attorneys
3/11/1999	Post Trial Hearing	3 Attorneys	2 Attorneys
1/19/1999 thru 2/2/1999	Trial	2 Attorneys, 1 Paralegal	2 Attorneys, 1 Law Clerk
12/7/1998	Settlement Conf. w/ Judge Klein	3 Attorneys	2 Attorneys
11/4/1998	Dr. Tolter Deposition	1 Attorney	2 Attorneys
11/20/1997	D. Ct. Motions Hearing	2 Attorneys	4 Attorneys
11/7/1997	D. Ct. Motions Hearing	2 Attorneys	4 Attorneys
3/4/1997	Kevin Knussman Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney

<u>Date</u>	<u>Proceeding</u>	<u>Plaintiff's Counsel Billing</u>	<u>Defense Counsel Attending</u>
3/3/1997	Dr. Wenz Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
2/7/1997	D.Ct. Motions Hearing	2 Attorneys	1 Attorney
2/4/1997	Kim Knussman Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
2/3/1997	Kim Knussman Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
2/3/1997	Kevin Knussman Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
1/31/1997	D.Ct. Motions Hearing	2 Attorneys	1 Attorney
1/23/1997	Mullineaux Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
1/23/1997	Czorapinski Deposition	1 Attorney	1 Attorney
1/26/1996	D. Ct. Motions Hearing	2 Attorneys	1 Attorney
8/1/1995	Settlement Conference w/ Judge Blake	2 Attorneys	2 Attorneys